

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Advisory Action dated November 30, 2005, and within the period for response extending to January 10, 2006, with a two-month extension. The status of the claims is summarized as follows:

5 Claims 1, 9, and 20 are currently amended;

 Claims 8, 12, 14, 15, 18, 24, and 28 are cancelled; and

 Claims 1-7, 9-11, 13, 16-17, 19-23, 25-27, and 29 remain pending after entry of this Amendment.

10 Allowable Subject Matter

 The Applicants acknowledge the Office's indication that claims 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

 The Applicants acknowledge the Office's indication that claims 8, 13, 18, 25, 26,
15 and 28 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

20 Claims 14 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. These rejections are traversed.

 The Office is requested to note that claims 14 and 15 have been cancelled.

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Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 16, 19-23, and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Su et al. ("Su" hereafter) (U.S. Patent No. 6,275,435). These
5 rejections are traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate all features of claim 8. Amended claim 1 represents claim 8 having been placed in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, per the Office's indication that claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all
10 of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims, the Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is allowable. Additionally, because a dependent claim incorporates each and every feature of its independent claim, the Applicants submit that dependent claims 2-7 are allowable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1.

Claim 9 has been amended to incorporate all features of claim 18. Amended claim
15 9 represents claim 18 having been placed in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, per the Office's indication that claim 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims, the Applicants submit that amended claim 9 is allowable. Additionally, because a dependent claim incorporates each
20 and every feature of its independent claim, the Applicants submit that dependent claims 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, and 19 are allowable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 9.

Claim 20 has been amended to incorporate all features of claim 28. Amended claim 20 represents claim 28 having been placed in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, per the Office's
25 indication that claim 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all

of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims, the Applicants submit that amended claim 20 is allowable. Additionally, because a dependent claim incorporates each and every feature of its independent claim, the Applicants submit that dependent claims 21-23, 25-27, and 29 are allowable for at least the same reasons as amended claim
5 20.

The claim amendments provided herein serve to place all pending claims in condition for allowance. Therefore, the present Amendment should be allowed after-final entry. Also, it should be understood that the amendments provided herein are made in the interest of securing a Notice of Allowance, and should not be construed as acquiescing to
10 the Office's rejections.


Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 5, 17, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McClure. These rejections are traversed.

15 Because each of dependent claims 5, 17, and 27 ultimately depends from independent claims 1, 9, and 20, respectively, and incorporates all features of its respective independent claim, the Applicants submit that each of dependent claims 5, 17, and 27 is patentable for at least the reasons provided for its respective independent claim, as-amended. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw the
20 rejections of dependent claims 5, 17, and 27.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that claims 1-7, 9-11, 13, 16-17, 19-23, 25-27, and 29 are in condition for allowance, and request the Office to withdraw all outstanding claim rejections. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present Amendment, the Examiner is kindly
5 requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 774-6914. If any additional fees are due in connection with filing this Amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. SUNMP383). A duplicate copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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